

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Info

FROM: BERLIN

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 647, FEBRUARY 3, 8 P.M.

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SENT DEPARTMENT 647 PRIORITY BONN 577 REPEATED INFORMATION  
LONDON 109 PRIORITY PARIS 141 MOSCOW 188, POLAD USAREUR PRITY 190

PARIS FOR EMBASSY, USRO, CINCEUR THURSTON AND WEST.

OURTEL 572 TO BONN, 643 TO DEPT..

FOLLOWING IS ACCOUNT USPOLAD MEETING WITH SOV POLAD MARKUSHIN  
TODAY:

USPOLAD INFORMED MARKUSHIN WE VIEWED MARIENBORN INCIDENT IN SERIOUS  
LIGHT. SOV COMMANDANT AND MARKUSHIN HAD OFTEN STATED SOVS DID  
NOT WISH TO AGGREGATE TENSE SITUATION WHICH EXISTS IN BERLIN,  
AND NEITHER DOES U.S., BUT THIS INCIDENT REPRESENTS AN  
UNWARRANTED ATTEMPT TO INTERFERE WITH US ACCESS.

THERE FOLLOWED LENGTHY AND COMPLETELY UNPRODUCTIVE DISCUSSION  
INSPECTION ISSUE. MARKUSHIN CONCLUDED WITH STATEMENT THAT  
CONVOY COULD NOT RPT NOT PROCEED TO FEDREP UNLESS IT SUBMITTED  
TO INSPECTION. SINCE INSPECTION PRINCIPLE PROMULGATED BY SOV  
GEN ZAKHAROV IT COULD ONLY BE CHANGED BY HIM. ZAKHAROV NOW  
IN MOSCOW ATTENDING PARTY CONGRESS.

MARKUSHIN THEN ASKED: "WHAT ACTION WILL YOU TAKE IN REGARD  
TO THE TRUCKS?" USPOLAD REPLIED: "I SHALL REPORT OUR  
CONVERSATION IN DETAIL TO GEN HAMLETT." MARKUSHIN REPEATED  
QUESTION AND RECEIVED SAME ANSWER.

MARKUSHIN ASKED: "PLEASE TELL ME FOR MY PERSONAL INFORMATION WHY

PERMANENT

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-2- 647, FEBRUARY 3, 8 P.M., FROM BERLIN

THE CONVOY SUBMITTED TO INSPECTION AT NOWAWES BUT REFUSED TO DO SO AT MARIENBORN." USPOLAD INDICATED THAT AT MARIENBORN SOV. CHECKPOINT OFFICER HAD DEMANDED TO MAKE PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF INTERIOR OF TRUCKS. MARKUSHIN REPLIED: "USUALLY THE PROCEDURE IS THAT YOUR DRIVERS OPEN THE COVERS AND OUR SOLDIERS LOOK INSIDE - IN THIS CASE WE DO NOT HAVE TO ENTER TO INSPECT." USPOLAD STATED THAT TYPE OF COVERING ON OUR TRUCKS DEPENDENT ON NATURE OF CONTENTS CARRIED. IN THIS CASE, SINCE CONTENTS WERE JEEPS, ONLY TOPS OF TRUCKS COVERED AND REARS OPEN FOR VENTILATION.

MARKUSHIN SEEMED SURPRISED TO RECEIVE THIS INFORMATION. HE STATED HE WOULD REPORT ENTIRE CONVERSATION IMMEDIATELY TO HIS SUPERIORS.

ON DEPARTURE, MARKUSHIN TOOK USPOLAD ASIDE AND SAID: "THE INCIDENT AT MARIENBORN MAY BE JUST THE RESULT OF A LOCAL MISUNDERSTANDING AND I WILL PERSONALLY INVESTIGATE IT IN DETAIL."

MEETING WITH MARKUSHIN ENDED AT 12 NOON. AS OF 7:00 PM SOVS HAVE NOT CLEARED CONVOY AT MARIENBORN.

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